

Message Text

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65

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 /066 W

----- 085549

R 060947Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7920

INFO CINCPAC HONOLULU

COMUSMACTHAI BANGKOK

UNCLAS BANGKOK 2618

CINCPAC ALSO FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PGOV, PINT, TH

SUBJECT: ELECTION DEVELOPMENTS

1. DURING HIS REGULAR "MEET THE PEOPLE" TV PROGRAM FEBRUARY 5, PRIME MINISTER KHUKRIT PRAMOT REAFFIRMED THAT THE ELECTIONS WOULD DEFINITELY TAKE PLACE ON APRIL 4, SPECIFICALLY DISCOUNTING AS GROUNDLESS ROMORS THAT A COUP WOULD TAKE PLACE BEFORE THE ELECTIONS. HE ALSO RECONFIRMED THAT THE GOVERNMENT WOULD SET UP A SPECIAL "INDEPENDENT" COMMITTEE TO SUPERVISE AND CONTROL THE APRIL 4 ELECTIONS. HOWEVER, HE DID NOT DISCLOSE THE IDENTITY OF MEMBERS OF THIS COMMITTEE OR WHAT ITS POWERS WOULD BE. HE ALSO MADE AN IMPASSIONED PLEA FOR VOTERS TO VOTE FOR THE PARTY AND NOT THE PERSON. HE SAID THAT ONE BIG PARTY MUST EMERGE FROM THE ELECTIONS WITH A MAJORITY OF SEATS SO THAT IT COULD SET UP A GOVERNMENT WHICH IS STABLE AND COULD RESTORE PEACE AND ORDER TO THE COUNTRY.

2. ACCORDING TO PRESS REPORTS DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE SOCIALIST PARTY OF THAILAND (SPT), WIRAT SAKCHIRAPAPONG, TOLD REPORTERS ON FEBRUARY 5 THAT THE SPT WOULD NOT ANNOUNCE ITS LIST OF CANDIDATES IN ADVANCE BECAUSE NAMING THE CANDIDATES WOULD MAKE THEM TARGETS FOR ELIMINATION (I.E., ASSASSINATION).

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3. ON FEBRUARY 4, SOCIALIST PARTY LEADER COL. SOMKHIT SISANGKHOM

TOLD REPORTERS THAT THE SPT IS IN DIRE FINANCIAL STRAITS WITH
ONLY BAHT 90,000 TO SUPPORT ALL SPT CANDIDATES. HE ESTIMATED
THAT THE MINIMUM AMOUNT EACH CANDIDATE REQUIRED FOR CAMPAIGN
EXPENSES WAS BAHT 30,000.
WHITEHOUSE

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: NEWS MEDIA COMMENTS, NATIONAL ELECTIONS, POLITICAL PARTIES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 06 FEB 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976BANGKO02618
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760046-0691
From: BANGKOK
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760276/aaaacotq.tel
Line Count: 66
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ShawDG
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 02 SEP 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <02 SEP 2004 by meiwc>; APPROVED <09 SEP 2004 by ShawDG>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ELECTION DEVELOPMENTS
TAGS: PGOV, PINT, TH, (KHUKRIT PRAMOT)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006